

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9-19 and 21 remain in the application. Claims 3, 6, 8, and 20 are canceled. Claims 1, 5, 7, 9-11, 14, and 21 have been amended.

More specifically, the subject matter of claim 8 and the intervening claims 3 and 6 has been incorporated into claim 1. In light of the indicated allowability of claim 8, the amended claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

The subject matter of claim 8 also appears in claim 21. We have added the subject matter of the dependent claims 3 and 6 into claim 21. In light of the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance found on page 9, claim 21 is in condition for allowance as well.

All issues having been resolved in this application, the Examiner is requested to pass the case to issue. Should any objections/questions/comments remain, counsel would appreciate receiving a telephone call, so that remaining issues may be expeditiously resolved.

/Werner H. Stermer/

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